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ABSTRACT

The numbers, levels, and fields of degrees conferred in Connecticut from July 1987 to June 1988 are reported, characteristics of degree recipients are presented, and trends are analyzed. Highlights include these: Connecticut colleges and universities awarded 26,877 degrees, slightly above the year before and very consistent with 15-year patterns. Bachelor's degrees accounted for half of all awards, followed by master's, associate, first-professional, and doctoral. Associate and doctoral degrees dropped from the previous year; bachelor's and master's rose. Public and independent institutions awarded almost equal number of degrees. Business and management was the most popular field for the sixth consecutive year, followed by education. Nearly three-fourths of all education awards were at the master's level. Bachelor's degrees in education rose slightly over the previous year but remained at the decade's second lowest point. Undergraduate degrees in health sciences increased slightly. Degrees in engineering and related fields dropped for the third consecutive year. Math and science were down also. Awards to minority students reached an all-time high, although degrees earned by black and American Indian students were down over the previous year. In addition, these students were more likely to earn associate's degrees than other groups. The number of Hispanic and Asian degree recipients increased significantly. (Author/MSE)

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Report

R-2-89
March 1989

Board of Governors for Higher Education
Department of Higher Education
State of Connecticut

Degrees Conferred by Connecticut Colleges and Universities 1987-88

- Connecticut colleges and universities awarded 26,877 degrees in 1987-88, slightly higher than the year before and remarkably consistent with patterns over the past 15 years.
- Bachelor's degrees accounted for half of all awards, followed by master's, associate's, first-professional awards, and doctorates.
- The number of associate's degrees and doctorates dropped from the previous year, while bachelor's and master's degrees were up.
- Public and independent institutions awarded almost equal numbers of degrees.
- Business and management was the most popular field for the sixth consecutive year, followed by education.
- Nearly three-fourths of all education awards were at the master's level. Bachelor's degrees in education rose slightly over the previous year but remained at the second lowest point of the decade.
- Undergraduate degrees in health sciences increased slightly.
- Degrees in engineering and related fields dropped for the third consecutive year. Degrees in math and science were down also.
- Awards to minority students reached an all-time high, although degrees earned by Black and American Indian students were down over the previous year. In addition, these students were more likely to earn associate's degrees than were other groups.
- The number of Hispanic and Asian degree recipients increased significantly.

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Introduction

The number of degrees awarded by Connecticut's colleges and universities is an important indicator of higher education's effectiveness in meeting the needs of students and of the state. These data provide one measure of the productivity of higher education. While different types of institutions have different missions and goals, central to the operation of each is the emphasis on student progress toward degrees. Information on degrees also is useful in assessing the available supply of college-educated personnel to meet employment demands in a society where jobs require increasingly sophisticated analytic and technical skills. The state's economy and its society are thus enhanced by the numbers of students who complete their academic work and receive degrees.

This report describes the numbers, levels, and fields of degrees conferred in Connecticut, and profiles degree recipients. It also presents data on trends and provides information for use in policy-making.

Each college and university provided information for the report; the data were aggregated by the Department of Higher Education. The numbers reflect those students who earned degrees between July 1, 1987 and June 30, 1988. Disciplines are categorized according to the federal Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP), a system in use since 1981-82.

Degrees Conferred by Institution

In 1987-88, students in Connecticut colleges and universities earned 26,877 degrees (see Table 1), up very slightly from the previous year's total of 26,663 degrees. Over the past fifteen years, the number of degrees awarded has remained remarkably stable.

Declines were apparent at some levels (see Table 2), however, with associate's degrees at the lowest point in fourteen years. Doctorates and degrees in professional programs were also down slightly.

Bachelor's degrees reached the second highest level of the past twelve years. As in previous years, bachelor's awards accounted for slightly more than half of all degrees (51.5% or 13,833). The number of master's degrees was the highest in 11 years. This level was the second most popular, accounting for almost one-quarter of all awards (24.3% or 6,539). Associate's, doctorates, and first-professional awards made up smaller proportions of total awards with associate's degrees at 17.9% or 4,804, 918 first-professional degrees accounting for 3.4% of all awards, and 496 doctorates accounting for 1.8%. Finally, 287 certificates, 1.1% of the total, were awarded.

Public and independent institutions awarded almost equal proportions of degrees. These proportions have shifted over the past decade, as degrees awarded by independent colleges and universities increased and those awarded by the publics decreased. Although totals were very similar, differences were evident at degree levels. Public institutions awarded most of the certificates (85.7%) and associate's (75.1%), and the independents awarded more graduate degrees (60.6% of master's, 63.7% of doctorates, and 65.3% of first-professional). At the bachelor's level, awards were roughly the same across the two sectors.

Table 1
Degrees Conferred by Connecticut Institutions of Higher Education by Institution and Level
1987-88

	Certificates One Year or More	Associate's	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctoral	First-Professional	Total
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS							
University of Connecticut	24	0	2,842	1,127	180	319	4,492
Storrs and Regional Campuses	24	0	2,842	1,127	180	210	4,383
UConn Health Center	0	0	0	0	0	109	109
Connecticut State University	0	38	3,691	1,447	0	0	5,176
Central	0	0	1,479	392	0	0	1,871
Eastern	0	13	571	101	0	0	685
Southern	0	6	1,080	821	0	0	1,907
Western	0	19	561	133	0	0	713
Regional Community Colleges	170	2,828	0	0	0	0	2,998
Asnuntuck	28	114	0	0	0	0	142
Greater Hartford	3	196	0	0	0	0	199
Housatonic	10	141	0	0	0	0	151
Manchester	57	561	0	0	0	0	618
Mattatuck	0	384	0	0	0	0	384
Middlesex	3	270	0	0	0	0	273
Mohegan	25	274	0	0	0	0	299
Northwestern Connecticut	0	132	0	0	0	0	132
Norwalk	0	238	0	0	0	0	238
Quinebaug Valley	8	79	0	0	0	0	87
South Central	14	191	0	0	0	0	205
Tunxis	22	248	0	0	0	0	270
State Technical Colleges	52	684	0	0	0	0	736
Greater New Haven	10	93	0	0	0	0	103
Hartford	0	166	0	0	0	0	166
Norwalk	0	92	0	0	0	0	92
Thames Valley	32	140	0	0	0	0	172
Waterbury	10	193	0	0	0	0	203
Charter Oak College	0	58	145	0	0	0	203
TOTAL, State Institutions	246	3,608	6,678	2,574	180	319	13,605
U.S. Coast Guard Academy	0	0	157	0	0	0	157
TOTAL, Public Institutions	246	3,608	6,835	2,574	180	319	13,762
INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS							
Four-Year National	0	0	2,966	1,455	302	387	5,110
Connecticut College	0	0	477	37	0	0	514
Trinity College	0	0	487	29	0	0	516
Wesleyan University	0	0	649	119	12	0	780
Yale University	0	0	1,353	1,270	290	387	3,300
Four-Year Regional	28	618	4,032	2,510	14	212	7,614
Albertus Magnus College	0	36	82	0	0	0	118
Bridgeport Engineering Institute	0	12	54	0	0	0	66
Fairfield University	0	0	795	243	0	0	1,038
Hartford Graduate Center	0	0	0	508	0	0	508
Hartford Seminary Foundation	0	0	0	2	3	0	5
Holy Apostles College	0	0	10	20	0	6	36
Paier College of Art, Inc.	28	3	30	0	0	0	61
Post College	0	117	172	0	0	0	289
Quinnipiac College	0	56	413	50	0	0	519
Sacred Heart University	0	154	481	186	0	0	821
St. Alphonsus College	0	0	8	0	0	0	8
St. Basil's College	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
St. Joseph College	0	0	150	129	0	0	279
University of Bridgeport	0	121	448	328	6	206	1,109
University of Hartford	0	186	916	478	5	0	1,585
University of New Haven	0	133	472	566	0	0	1,171
Two-Year Independent	13	378	0	0	0	0	391
Briarwood College	13	114	0	0	0	0	127
Hartford College for Women	0	65	0	0	0	0	65
Katharine Gibbs School, Inc.	0	21	0	0	0	0	21
Mitchell College	0	176	0	0	0	0	176
Mt. Sacred Heart College	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
TOTAL, Independent Institutions	41	1,196	6,998	3,965	316	599	13,115
TOTAL, All Institutions	287	4,804	13,833	6,539	496	918	26,877

Table 2
Degrees Conferred in Connecticut
by Year, Sector, and Level
1977-78 to 1987-88

	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Public Institutions											
Certificates	291	239	275	305	250	257	313	215	249	193	246
Associate's	4,111	4,075	4,061	4,075	4,092	4,583	4,699	4,490	4,004	3,698	3,608
Bachelor's	7,462	7,117	6,811	6,921	6,705	6,705	6,739	6,828	7,107	6,747	6,835
Master's	3,340	3,045	2,937	2,944	2,605	2,518	2,260	2,278	2,402	2,358	2,574
Doctoral	189	161	194	205	168	159	195	181	174	193	180
First-Professional	296	338	337	295	314	312	314	321	316	322	319
TOTAL	15,689	14,975	14,615	14,745	14,134	14,534	14,520	14,313	14,252	13,511	13,762
Independent Institutions											
Certificates	10	69	32	34	37	33	20	31	38	39	41
Associate's	1,346	1,421	1,347	1,328	1,376	1,323	1,322	1,310	1,289	1,181	1,196
Bachelor's	6,207	5,880	6,355	6,568	6,692	6,738	6,763	6,879	7,053	6,880	6,998
Master's	3,113	3,156	3,153	3,485	3,441	3,579	3,600	3,550	3,899	4,087	3,965
Doctoral	348	351	310	278	314	311	320	291	288	340	316
First-Professional	372	382	605	501	485	574	561	642	611	625	599
TOTAL	11,396	11,259	11,802	12,194	12,345	12,558	12,586	12,703	13,178	13,152	13,115
All Institutions											
Certificates	301	308	307	339	287	290	333	246	287	232	287
Associate's	5,457	5,496	5,408	5,403	5,468	5,906	6,021	5,800	5,293	4,879	4,804
Bachelor's	13,669	12,997	13,166	13,489	13,397	13,443	13,502	13,707	14,160	13,627	13,833
Master's	6,453	6,201	6,090	6,429	6,046	6,097	5,860	5,828	6,301	6,445	6,539
Doctoral	537	512	504	483	482	470	515	472	462	533	496
First-Professional	668	720	942	796	799	886	875	963	927	947	918
GRAND TOTAL	27,085	26,234	26,417	26,939	26,479	27,092	27,106	27,016	27,430	26,663	26,877

Numbers of degrees awarded are related closely to changing patterns of student attendance. Growing part-time enrollments can slow degree production, as students spend more time completing program requirements. Apparent declines in degrees, therefore, should be examined in light of full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollments, a statistic based upon credit-hour activity, rather than headcount. Using proportions of FTE enrollment and proportions of degrees awarded to calculate completion ratios is one method of assessing overall degree production in various institutions.

As presented in Table 3, the share of degrees awarded by the independent institutions was greater than their share of FTE enrollment, suggesting that completion rates were somewhat higher. For example, the independent institutions accounted for 40.9% of FTE enrollment in 1987-88, but they awarded 49.5% of all degrees -- a ratio of 1.21. The University of Connecticut had the highest ratio (.89) in the public sector, with 18.9% of FTE enrollment and 16.9% of degrees. The public two-year institutions had the lowest ratios. It is likely that proportionately more students attend these institutions to take one or two courses without intending to pursue a degree, resulting in what appears to be lower completion rates.

Table 3
Ratio of Degrees to Full-Time Equivalent Enrollment
by Type of Institution
1987-88

	Proportion of Total Degrees	Proportion of Total FTE	Ratio
Two-Year Independents	1.5	1.2	1.25
Regional Independents	28.7	23.6	1.22
National Independents	19.3	16.0	1.21
University of Connecticut and Health Center	16.9	18.9	.89
Connecticut State University	19.5	22.4	.87
State Technical Colleges	2.8	3.3	.85
Regional Community Colleges	11.3	14.5	.78
TOTAL, Public*			.85
TOTAL, Independent	49.5	40.9	1.21

*Excluding Board for State Academic Awards and U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

Trends in the Disciplines

Awards by discipline followed the trends established in recent years. The greatest number of degrees was awarded in business and management. For the fourth year, education and social sciences were second and third, respectively. Awards by level for each disciplines are displayed in Table 4.

In programs of two years or less, liberal/general studies awards led the disciplines. At the associate's degree level, liberal/general studies (1,519) and business/office (1,336) accounted for 59.4% of the total. Awards in engineering and engineering technologies were a distant third, with 609 or 12.7% of the total.

Business and management, with 3,118 degrees, accounted for 22.5% of all bachelor's awards, followed by 2,028 degrees in social sciences (14.7%), 948 in letters (6.9%), 867 in engineering (6.3%), and 724 in education (5.2%). These proportions were similar to those of recent years.

At the master's level, more degrees were awarded in education, 1,935 or 29.6%, than in any other field. Business and management awards followed, with 1,713 degrees accounting for 26.2% of the total.

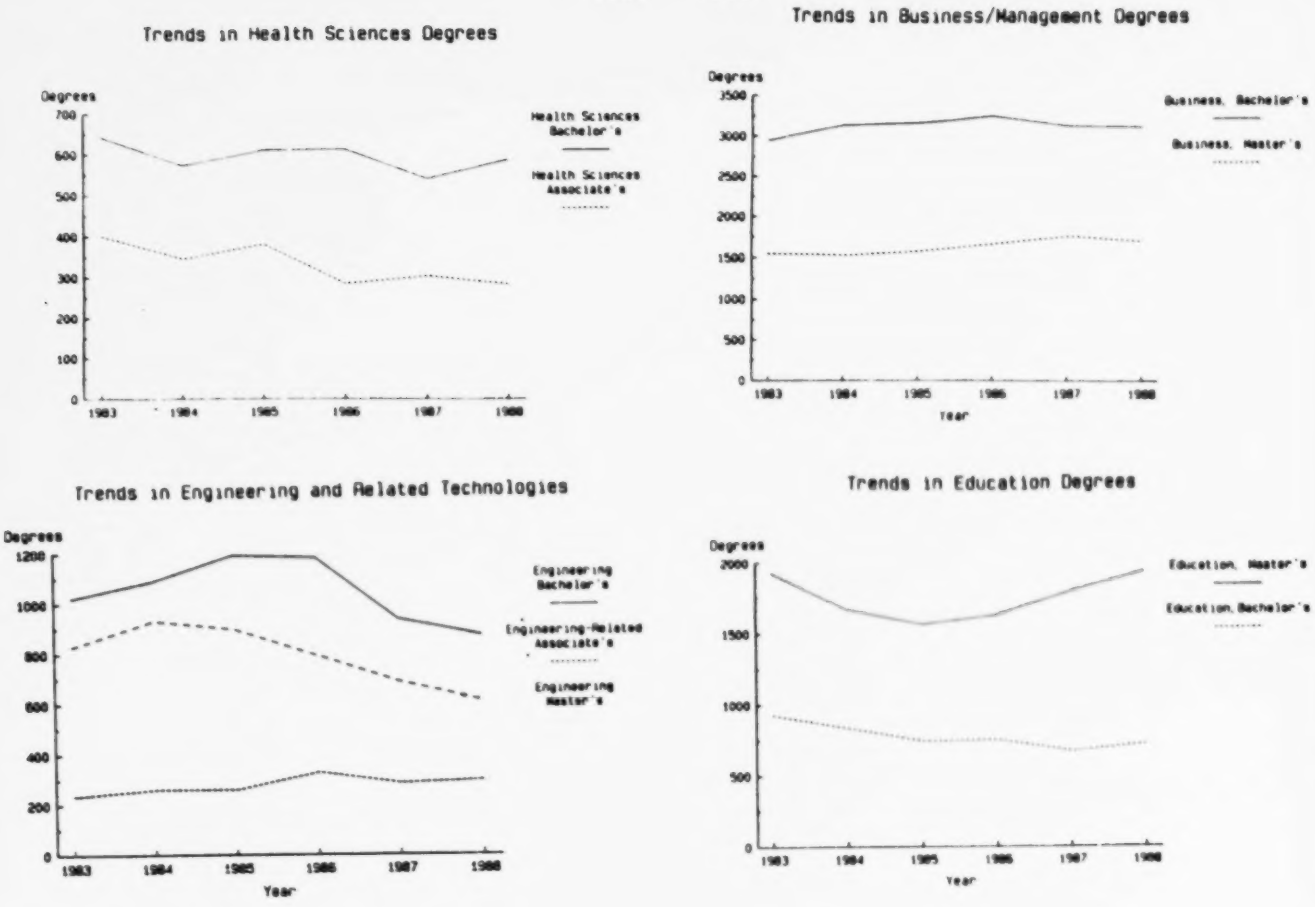
Five fields of study accounted for 64.1% of all doctoral degrees: life sciences (91), social sciences (68), physical sciences (63), education (51), and engineering (45).

Table 4
Degrees Conferred by Connecticut Institutions of
Higher Education by Discipline
1987-88

Discipline	Certificates One Year or More	Associate's	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctoral	First-Professional	Total	Rank
1 Agribusiness and Agricultural Production	24	0	5	4	0	0	33	36
2 Agricultural Sciences	0	1	57	13	3	0	74	31
3 Renewable Natural Resources	0	0	5	58	8	0	71	32
4 Architecture and Environmental Design	18	8	43	55	0	0	124	29
5 Area and Ethnic Studies	0	0	230	48	9	0	287	22
6 Business and Management	0	19	3,118	1,713	9	0	4,859	1
7 Business and Office	76	1,336	17	0	0	0	1,429	5
8 Marketing and Distribution	4	145	225	0	0	0	374	19
9 Communications	1	6	482	70	0	0	559	16
10 Communication Technologies	0	9	0	0	0	0	9	38
11 Computer and Information Sciences	3	60	309	203	5	0	580	15
13 Education	0	23	724	1,935	51	0	2,733	2
14 Engineering	0	0	867	295	45	0	1,207	7
15 Engineering and Engineering-Related Technologies	9	609	185	2	0	0	805	11
16 Foreign Languages	0	0	175	51	13	0	239	24
17 Allied Health	36	311	217	29	0	0	593	14
18 Health Sciences	0	281	585	326	19	208	1,419	6
19 Home Economics	0	3	191	24	2	0	220	25
20 Vocational Home Economics	41	143	0	14	0	0	198	28
22 Law	0	66	18	54	3	606	767	13
23 Letters	0	0	948	85	22	0	1,055	8
24 Liberal/General Studies	11	1,519	366	1	0	0	1,897	4
25 Library and Archival Sciences	2	0	4	82	0	0	88	30
26 Life Sciences	0	0	534	151	91	0	776	12
27 Mathematics	0	0	255	46	13	0	314	20
30 Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	0	0	282	6	4	0	292	21
31 Parks and Recreation	0	9	36	12	0	0	57	34
36 Leisure and Recreational Activities	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	39
38 Philosophy and Religion	0	0	160	28	17	0	205	27
39 Theology	0	0	0	107	3	104	214	26
40 Physical Sciences	0	0	201	116	63	0	380	18
41 Science Technologies	0	48	0	0	0	0	48	35
42 Psychology	0	0	670	139	23	0	840	10
43 Protective Services	4	94	123	29	0	0	250	23
44 Public Affairs	2	12	83	317	0	0	414	17
45 Social Sciences	0	2	2,028	262	68	0	2,360	3
47 Mechanics and Repairers	8	5	0	0	0	0	13	37
48 Precision Production	32	28	0	0	0	0	60	33
50 Visual and Performing Arts	16	43	682	264	25	0	1,030	9
TOTAL	287	4,804	13,833	6,539	496	918	26,877	-

While overall proportions of degrees have remained much the same in recent years, changes have occurred in some fields (see Figure 1). Although business and management remained the most popular field, the number of degrees at both bachelor's and master's levels in that area declined slightly. Education degrees showed gains at both levels, although the increase at the bachelor's level was not enough to offset the decline in 1986-87. Bachelor's degrees in engineering dropped for the third consecutive year. Associate's degrees in engineering and engineering related technologies also dropped, continuing the decline that began in 1983-84. Health sciences degrees -- including nursing -- were up over the previous year at the bachelor's level but were down slightly at the associate's level.

Figure 1
Trends for Degrees Awarded
in Selected Fields
1983 - 1988



Degrees Awarded to Women

Women continued to earn the majority of all degrees in 1987-88 (see Table 5), receiving 55.2% of all awards. As in the past, women earned most of the degrees at the master's level and below and continued to receive proportionately fewer doctoral and professional degrees than men.

Table 5
Degrees Awarded to Men and Women
by Level
1987-88

	MEN		WOMEN	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Certificate's	93	32.4%	194	67.6%
Associate's	1,792	37.5%	3,012	62.5%
Bachelor's	6,412	46.4%	7,421	53.6%
Master's	2,935	44.9%	3,604	55.1%
Doctoral	316	63.7%	180	36.3%
First-Professional	502	54.7%	416	45.3%
TOTAL	12,050	44.8%	14,827	55.2%

Women earned substantial proportions of degrees in business/office, education, foreign languages, health, letters, life sciences, psychology, and public affairs. Men earned the majority of degrees in business and management (at the master's level), computer and information sciences, engineering, physical sciences, and social sciences. In addition, men accounted for the majority of degrees in the professional programs of law and medicine. Awards to men and women by discipline are contained in Table 6.

Table 6
Degrees Conferred in Connecticut
by Discipline and Sex
1987-88

Discipline	Women	Men	Total
01 Agribusiness and Agricultural Production	15	18	33
02 Agricultural Sciences	48	26	74
03 Renewable Natural Resources	30	41	71
04 Architecture and Environmental Design	58	66	124
05 Area and Ethnic Studies	164	123	287
06 Business and Management	2,209	2,650	4,859
07 Business and Office	1,013	416	1,429
08 Marketing and Distribution	236	138	374
09 Communications	323	236	559
10 Communication Technologies	5	4	9
11 Computer and Information Sciences	107	393	500
13 Education	2,145	588	2,733
14 Engineering	128	1,079	1,207
15 Engineering and Engineering-Related Technologies	112	693	805
16 Foreign Languages	178	61	239
17 Allied Health	504	89	593
18 Health Sciences	1,172	247	1,419
19 Home Economics	206	14	220
20 Vocational Home Economics	166	32	198
22 Law	379	388	767
23 Letters	674	381	1,055
24 Liberal/General Studies	1,172	725	1,897
25 Library and Archival Sciences	74	14	88
26 Life Sciences	428	348	776
27 Mathematics	129	185	314
30 Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	155	137	292
31 Parks and Recreation	40	17	57
36 Leisure and Recreational Activities	4	0	4
38 Philosophy and Religion	77	128	205
39 Theology	109	105	214
40 Physical Sciences	112	268	380
41 Science Technologies	15	33	48
42 Psychology	591	249	840
43 Protective Services	79	171	250
44 Public Affairs	312	102	414
45 Social Sciences	949	1,411	2,360
47 Mechanics and Repairers	2	11	13
48 Precision Production	16	44	60
50 Visual and Performing Arts	611	419	1,030
TOTAL	14,827	12,050	26,877

Degrees Awarded to Minorities

Of the 26,877 degrees awarded at all levels in 1987-88, minority students earned 2,022 or 7.5%. More degrees were awarded to minority students in 1987-88 than in any previous reporting period (see Table 7). Among minorities, Blacks earned the largest number of degrees, followed in order by Asians, Hispanics, and American Indians.

Table 7
Degrees Awarded by Race and Ethnicity
All Levels and Institutions
1983, 1985, 1987, 1988

Race/Ethnicity	1982-83	1984-85	1986-87	1987-88
Black	903	849	971	950
Hispanic	382	455	419	496
Asian	300	504	464	520
American Indian	82	59	64	56
TOTAL, Minorities	1,667	1,876	1,918	2,022
White	24,751	24,358	23,586	23,720
Non-resident Aliens	674	791	1,159	1,135
TOTAL, Non-minorities	25,425	25,149	24,745	24,855
GRAND TOTAL	27,092	27,016	26,663	26,877

Trends varied for individual racial groups. The number of Blacks and American Indians earning degrees showed a one-year decline, while degrees to Hispanics and Asians increased. The group with the greatest one-year increase was Hispanics, with degrees up 18.4%. In a five-year comparison, all groups except American Indians showed gains over 1982-83.

Degrees awarded by level and discipline for each racial/ethnic group are detailed in Table 8.

At all levels, business and management was the most popular field of study for minorities and for whites. Blacks earned 123 degrees in business/management and 118 in business/office, followed by 102 in liberal/general studies, and 85 in the social sciences. Hispanics earned 69 degrees in business/management, followed by 60 degrees in the social sciences, and 54 in education. Asians earned 77 in business/management, followed by 61 in the social sciences, and 61 in engineering.

Although overall awards to minority students increased, some disciplines had few minority degree recipients. While the total number of bachelor's degrees in education was up, the number of Black and Hispanic degree recipients dropped. In 1982-83, 32 Blacks and Hispanics graduated with bachelor's degrees in education. Five years later, the number was 16, representing a 50% decline. The number of Black and Hispanic students earning degrees in math, science, and engineering fields was also low and showed little change over the past five years.

About half of all degrees to minority students were awarded at the bachelor's level. When considering awards to all students, however, Blacks earned proportionately more of their degrees at the associate's level than did other groups.

Table 8
Degrees Conferred in Connecticut by Level, Discipline, and Race
1987-88

Discipline	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	Asian or Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaskan Native	White Non-Hispanic	Non-Resident Alien	Total
Certificates							
Agribusiness and Agricultural Production	0	0	0	0	24	0	24
Architecture and Environmental Design	0	0	0	0	18	0	18
Business and Office	4	0	1	0	71	0	76
Marketing and Distribution	1	0	0	0	3	0	4
Communications	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Computer and Information Sciences	0	0	1	0	2	0	3
Engineering and Engineering-Related Technologies	0	1	0	0	8	0	9
Allied Health	1	1	0	0	34	0	36
Vocational Home Economics	4	1	0	0	35	1	41
Liberal/General Studies	0	0	0	0	11	0	11
Library and Archival Sciences	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Protective Services	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Public Affairs	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Mechanics and Repairers	0	0	0	0	8	0	8
Precision Production	0	1	1	0	30	0	32
Visual and Performing Arts	0	1	0	0	15	0	16
Total Certificates	**10**	**5**	**3**	**0**	**268**	**1**	**287**
Associate							
Agricultural Sciences	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Architecture and Environmental Design	1	0	0	0	7	0	8
Business and Management	0	0	0	0	19	0	19
Business and Office	113	28	22	0	1,168	5	1,336
Marketing and Distribution	7	3	3	0	132	0	145
Communications	1	0	0	0	5	0	6
Communication Technologies	1	0	0	0	8	0	9
Computer and Information Sciences	1	3	5	0	51	0	60
Education	1	1	0	0	21	0	23
Engineering and Engineering-Related Technologies	22	15	18	3	549	2	609
Allied Health	16	8	2	0	283	2	311
Health Sciences	14	7	0	1	256	1	281
Home Economics	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Vocational Home Economics	12	2	0	0	128	1	143
Law	0	2	0	0	84	0	86
Liberal/General Studies	92	32	18	0	1,365	12	1,519
Parks and Recreation	0	0	0	0	9	0	9
Leisure and Recreational Activities	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Science Technologies	1	0	2	0	45	0	48
Protective Services	5	1	0	0	88	0	94
Public Affairs	2	2	0	0	8	0	12
Social Sciences	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Mechanics and Repairers	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Precision Production	0	1	0	0	27	0	28
Visual and Performing Arts	0	0	2	0	41	0	43
Total Associate Degrees	**289**	**105**	**72**	**4**	**4,308**	**26**	**4,804**
Bachelor's							
Agribusiness and Agricultural Production	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Agricultural Sciences	1	1	0	0	55	0	57
Renewal Natural Resources	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Architecture and Environmental Design	2	1	1	0	39	0	43
Area and Ethnic Studies	18	3	18	0	186	5	230
Business and Management	94	52	34	16	2,832	90	3,118
Business and Office	1	0	0	0	16	0	17
Marketing and Distribution	3	1	0	1	179	41	225
Communications	34	4	3	3	438	0	482
Computer and Information Sciences	7	7	12	0	263	20	309
Education	9	7	3	2	702	1	724
Engineering	25	11	41	2	665	123	867
Engineering and Engineering-Related Technologies	4	2	0	0	176	3	185
Foreign Languages	2	14	2	0	156	1	175
Allied Health	1	2	0	0	214	0	217
Health Sciences	16	12	3	2	549	3	585
Home Economics	6	4	2	1	178	0	191
Law	0	0	0	0	18	0	18
Letters	19	9	11	0	903	6	948
Liberal/General Studies	10	6	1	2	346	1	366
Library and Archival Sciences	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Life Sciences	20	9	34	0	462	9	534
Mathematics	3	2	11	1	228	10	255
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	12	2	10	1	252	5	282
Parks and Recreation	1	0	0	0	35	0	36
Philosophy and Religion	3	2	5	1	145	4	160
Physical Sciences	2	4	5	0	190	0	201
Psychology	32	12	7	4	620	3	678
Protective Services	14	8	0	0	101	0	123
Public Affairs	6	4	0	0	69	4	83
Social Sciences	68	54	52	1	1,818	35	2,028
Visual and Performing Arts	18	13	20	0	613	18	682
Total Bachelor's Degrees	**431**	**246**	**275**	**37**	**12,482**	**382**	**13,833**

Table 8 (cont.)
Degrees Conferred in Connecticut by
Level, Discipline, and Race
1987-88

Discipline	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	Asian or Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaskan Native	White Non-Hispanic	Non-Resident Alien	Total
Master's							
Agribusiness and Agricultural Production	0	0	0	0	3	1	4
Agricultural Sciences	0	0	1	0	11	1	13
Renewal Natural Resources	0	0	2	0	47	9	58
Architecture and Environmental Design	1	1	3	0	46	4	55
Area and Ethnic Studies	3	0	3	1	35	6	48
Business and Management	29	17	43	6	1,354	264	1,713
Communications	0	1	0	0	61	8	70
Computer and Information Sciences	2	2	10	1	151	37	203
Education	67	46	11	1	1,787	23	1,935
Engineering	3	1	18	1	217	55	295
Engineering and Engineering-Related Technologies	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Foreign Languages	1	10	0	0	37	3	51
Allied Health	1	0	1	0	27	0	29
Health Sciences	17	8	11	0	275	15	326
Home Economics	0	1	0	0	22	1	24
Vocational Home Economics	0	0	0	0	14	0	14
Law	0	2	0	0	29	23	54
Letters	0	2	5	0	64	14	85
Liberal/General Studies	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Library and Archival Sciences	2	0	1	0	79	0	82
Life Sciences	3	0	5	0	127	16	151
Mathematics	0	1	4	0	29	12	46
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	0	0	0	0	5	1	6
Parks and Recreation	0	0	0	0	12	0	12
Philosophy and Religion	0	0	1	0	24	3	28
Theology	3	0	1	0	91	12	107
Physical Sciences	2	0	6	0	85	23	116
Psychology	3	4	1	0	125	6	139
Protective Services	0	0	0	0	28	1	29
Public Affairs	10	9	2	0	287	9	317
Social Sciences	15	3	7	1	186	50	262
Visual and Performing Arts	7	5	8	0	214	30	264
Total Master's Degrees	**169**	**113**	**144**	**11**	**5,475**	**627**	**6,539**
Doctoral							
Agricultural Sciences	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Renewal Natural Resources	0	0	0	0	5	3	8
Area and Ethnic Studies	2	0	0	0	6	1	9
Business and Management	0	0	0	0	5	4	9
Computer and Information Sciences	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Education	1	0	1	0	46	3	51
Engineering	0	0	2	0	24	19	45
Foreign Languages	0	0	0	0	11	2	13
Health Sciences	0	1	1	0	17	0	19
Home Economics	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Law	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Letters	0	1	0	0	18	3	22
Life Sciences	0	3	1	0	77	10	91
Mathematics	0	1	2	0	8	2	13
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Philosophy and Religion	0	0	0	0	14	3	17
Theology	1	0	0	0	2	0	3
Physical Sciences	0	0	4	0	42	17	63
Psychology	0	1	0	0	21	1	23
Social Sciences	2	3	2	1	44	16	68
Visual and Performing Arts	1	0	0	0	22	2	25
Total Doctoral Degrees	**7**	**10**	**13**	**1**	**376**	**89**	**496**
First-Professional							
Health Sciences	15	8	7	0	175	3	208
Law	25	9	6	3	559	4	606
Theology	4	0	0	0	97	3	104
Total First-Professional Degrees	**44**	**17**	**13**	**3**	**831**	**10**	**918**
Grand Totals	**950**	**496**	**520**	**56**	**23,720**	**1,135**	**26,877**

Summary and Conclusions

Connecticut's colleges and universities continued to produce a steady number of graduates overall. Fewer students earned associate's degrees and certificates, however, the result of more part-time students, higher attrition rates, and/or increasing numbers of students seeking job skills or personal goals rather than degree completion. This dip at the lower levels may signal shortages of trained entry-level personnel in some areas, such as in technical fields.

Over the past five years, substantial proportions of students graduated with degrees in business-related fields. During the same time, the numbers of students pursuing study in education, engineering, health sciences, mathematics, and the sciences showed little growth at best, and generally declined.

Minority students earned more degrees than ever before, but they continued to be underrepresented in many fields. Although Hispanics and Asians showed sizable gains, fewer Blacks and American Indians earned degrees in 1987-88 than in the previous year. Black students also continued to earn substantial portions of their degrees at the two-year level and below. These findings suggest that, while initiatives to increase higher education access for minorities are working, more is needed to assure full participation. Added efforts should focus on extending minority recruitment to a wider range of fields, promoting articulation between two- and four-year colleges, and encouraging the pursuit of advanced study.

This report was prepared by Dr. Martha C. Highsmith, Director of Research and Planning, Connecticut Department of Higher Education